

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

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R 210838Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7753

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 0505

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, MZ, RH, SF, WZ

SUBJECT: SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON GOS MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS S.M. MATSEBULA ON MARCH 20 FOR GENERAL REVIEW OF AREA DEVELOPMENTS. FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED:

2. MOZAMBIQUE. MATSEBULA SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN GOS RELATIONS WITH MOZAMBIQUE SINCE AMBASSADOR'S LAST VISIT. GOS WAS CONTINUING TO WORK WITH MTG ON SUCH PRACTICAL MATTERS AS PORT AND RAILROAD PROBLEMS, LEAVING ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL RELATIONS UNTIL AFTER JUNE 25. REFERRING TO SPEECH ON SWAZI/MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS GIVEN PROVIOUS DAY BY PERMSEC MBONI DLAMINI (BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY), MATSEBULA SAID THIS WAS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK

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OF CURRENT POLICY AND BROKE NO NEW GROUND. GOS LOOKS

FORWARD TO GOOD RELATIONS WITH MOZAMBIQUE REGARDLESS OF
TYPE OF GOVERNMENT INSTALLED AFTER JUNE 25.

3. DIALOGUE AND DETENTE. IN WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION OF
CURRENT INITIATIVE FOR DIALOGUE AND DETENTE IN SOUTHERN
AFRICA, MATSEBULA SAID THIS IS VERY SENSITIVE MATTER FOR
SWAZILAND THAT MUST BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED. AT OAU
CONFERENCE IN ADDIS ABABA, LESOTHO HAD PUT FORWARD A
RESOLUTION THAT WAS "BOLD AND TOUGH". THIS HAD SUBSEQUENTLY
BEEN AMENDED AND PASSED. MATSEBULA (WHO DID NOT ATTEND
ADDIS CONFERENCE) UNDERSTOOD THAT IT WAS THIS INITIATIVE
THAT HAD LED TO THE DECISION TO HOLD THE FORTHCOMING
MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM. GOS WOULD BE DISCUSSING ITS
POSITION AT CABINET MEETING ON MARCH 25, AND KING SOBUZA
WOULD BE CONSULTED. SWAZI POLICY REMAINS ROOTED IN THE
LUSAKA MANIFESTO WHICH CALLS FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE IF
POSSIBLE AND IS THE BASIS OF THE DIALOGUE POLICY. THE
QUESTION IS WHAT DOES DIALOGUE MEAN TODAY; WHAT CONDITIONS
SHOULD THE OAU COUNTRIES SET DOWN BEFORE AGREEING TO A
POLICY OF DIALOGUE AND PERHAPS DETENTE WITH SOUTH AFRICA?
THESE ARE MATTERS THAT WILL BE DISCUSSED IN DAR ES SALAAM.

4. RHODESIA. MATSEBULA COMPLAINED THAT HE HAD LITTLE
RELIABLE INFORMATION ON RHODESIAN EVENTS; ALL HE KNOWS
IS WHAT HE READS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS. GOS SUPPORTS
DIALOGUE IN RHODESIA IF ALL PARTIES ARE SPEAKING AS
EQUALS. HOWEVER, ARREST OF SITHOLE FOR ALLEGEDLY PLAN-
NING TO COMMIT A CRIME AND THEN DENYING HIM AN OPEN
TRIAL IS UNACCEPTABLE. FINDING A SOLUTION IN RHODESIA
WILL REQUIRE SACRIFICE AND COMPROMISE BY ALL SIDES, BUT
THE AFRICANS CANNOT COMPROMISE ON SOME PRINCIPLES, SUCH
AS MAJORITY RULE.
BOLEN

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